

REMARKS

The purposes for this Supplemental Amendment include:

1. The filing of a formal drawing.
2. The correction of grammatical and spelling errors on pages 5, 13, 17 and 18 of the application, and the introduction of a subtitle "Brief Description of Drawing" on page 13.
3. The addition of a new claim 18 and revision of claim 1.
4. An editorial correction of the remarks filed with the amendment of March 10, 2009, which on several occasions used the word "application" instead of "patent".

As to new claim 18, it provides several distinctions compared to claim 1, as follows:

- (a) The hydrocarbon charge is now specified as containing resin.
- (b) The mixing stage is specified as being separate from the extraction stage, and
- (c) The mixing is conducted by mixing directly at least part of the recovered resin-depleted fraction after solvent removal with at least one light fraction obtained in the fractionation stage.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that new claim 18 defines a process which would have been clearly unobvious to one of ordinary skill in the art having knowledge of the cited references which do not contemplate the direct mixture of a resin-depleted fraction, after solvent removal, with at least one part of the light fraction from the fractionating column. In addition, Applicants rely on the distinguishing comments regarding claim 1 and claims dependent thereon in the attached edited remarks filed with the amendment of March 10, 2009.

In view of this submission and the amendment filed March 10, 2009, it appears that the application is in condition for allowance. If, on the other hand, there are residual issues which can be expeditiously resolved by a telephone conference, the Examiner is courteously invited to telephone Counsel at the number indicated below. If the undersigned is unavailable, the Examiner is invited to telephone Ms. Richardson at 703-812-5326 and she will be pleased to enlist the services of another attorney.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,

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